Application No. 10/594,440 Amendment dated August 26, 2009

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Reply to Office Action of March 30, 2009

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of $% \left\{ 1,2,\ldots ,n\right\}$

claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for external localization of anomalies

located in an immersed hollow structure, which anomalies were detected beforehand by

a device moving inside said immersed hollow structure, and positioned by counting from

an origin, marks located at regular intervals accessible from the inside and the outside

of said immersed hollow structure the method consisting of:

a. defining by counting, from the same aforesaid origin, a mark accessible on

the outside of the immersed hollow structure.

b. positioning a transponder module on the aforesaid mark,

c. identifying the transponder module by an identification code,

d. determining the number of marks separating said anomalies and said

identified transponder module.

2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1,

wherein the immersed hollow structure is a submarine pipeline.

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1,

wherein the marks located at regular intervals accessible inside and outside of said

immersed hollow structure are welds connecting metal sections forming the envelope of

the hollow structure.

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(Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a transponder is located near one aforesaid weld.

- 5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the identification of the transponder module by an identification code is carried out via a reading and writing device.
- 6. (**Previously presented**) The method according to claim 5, wherein the identification of the transponder module by an identification code is carried out at a frequency between 1 kHz and 150 kHz, preferably at 125 kHz and 134.2 kHz and at a power between 1 W and 100 W, preferably between 4 W and 20 W.
- (Previously presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein the reading and writing device comprises storage means and remote transmission means.
- 8. (Currently amended) A device for applying the method according to claim 1, for external localization of anomalies located in an immersed hollow structure, which anomalies were detected beforehand by a device moving inside said immersed hollow structure, and positioned by counting from an origin, marks located at regular intervals, accessible from the inside and the outside of said immersed hollow structure, said device comprising:
 - means for defining by counting, from the same aforesaid origin, a mark accessible on the outside of the immersed hollow structure.
 - b. means for positioning a transponder module on the aforesaid mark,
 - c. means for identifying the transponder module by an identification code,

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 means for determining the number of marks separating said anomalies and said identified transponder module.

 (Previously presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein the means for positioning the transponder module on the aforesaid mark comprise an open collar made in a flexible material unaffected by seawater.

10. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein the means for positioning the transponder module on the aforesaid mark, comprise a strap made in a flexible material unaffected by seawater.

11. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein the means for positioning the transponder module on the aforesaid mark consist in a bond unaffected by seawater.

12. (**Previously presented**) The device according to claim 8, wherein the means for positioning the transponder module on the aforesaid mark comprise a sealing member in the concrete or the coating resin of said immersed hollow structure.

13. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein the means for identifying the transponder module by an identification code comprise a reading and writing device.

14. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 11, wherein the aforesaid reading and writing device may write initial data in the transponder module before immersion. Application No. 10/594,440

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15. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein the immersed structure is a flexible or rigid submarine pipeline, or a submarine cable.

16. (New) The method according to claim 5,

wherein the reading and writing of information is performed at the surface before immersion of said transponder.

17. (New) The method according to claim 6,

wherein the reading and writing of information is performed at the surface before immersion of said transconder.

18. (New) The method according to claim 7,

wherein the reading and writing of information is performed at the surface before immersion of said transponder.

19. (New) The method according to claim 1,

wherein the reading and writing of information is performed in situ, in an immersed environment.

20. (New) The method according to claim 2,

wherein the reading and writing of information is performed *in situ*, in an immersed environment.

21. (New) The method according to claim 3,

wherein the reading and writing of information is performed in situ, in an immersed environment

22. (New) The method according to claim 4,

wherein the reading and writing of information is performed in situ, in an immersed environment.

23. (New) The method according to claim 5,

wherein the reading and writing of information is performed $in\ situ$, in an immersed environment

24. (New) The method according to claim 6,

wherein the reading and writing of information is performed $in \, situ$, in an immersed environment.

25. (New) The method according to claim 7,

wherein the reading and writing of information is performed *in situ*, in an immersed environment.